

RAVALLI COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
05 DECEMBER 2006

A meeting of the Ravalli County Airport Board was held on Tuesday, 05 December 2006, in the 1st floor meeting room @ the Ravalli County Administrative Center, Hamilton, Montana.

Board members present were: Dave Hedditch Fred Hasskamp Tex Irwin Carl Fox Jim Trowbridge

Others present were as follows:

Page Gough, Ravalli County Airport Manager
Rick Donaldson, Robert Peccia & Associates
William C. Stewart, Willow Aviation
H. E. "Red" Caldwell, Pogo Pumps
Bob Switzer
Kristine Komar, Double K Outfit

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Ravalli County Commissioners

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Dave Hedditch at 2:00 P.M. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the regular business of the Ravalli County Airport Board.

Item 1: Minutes of the 15 November 2006 meeting were approved as presented.

Item 2: Ravalli County Airport Environmental Assessment (EA): Chairman Hedditch stated that he had called John Styba, FAA HEL-ADO, & as of today, Styba had no idea how far Scott Bell, Morrison-Maierle, has gotten towards completing the document. Glenda Wiles, Ravalli County Commissioners' Administrative Officer, is also checking on this.

Item 3: Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's report.

Item 4: Airport Consulting Engineer Report - Rick Donaldson, Robert Peccia & Assoc.:

1. Donaldson gave a briefing on the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) & DigiWx. After some discussion on the necessity of a ceiling reading, Donaldson stated that the FAA does not require such.
 - Hasskamp stated that he thinks that a ceiling reading is needed for Part 135 operations. After some discussion, there appeared to be some question as to what are the necessary requirements. Hasskamp wants a letter from the FAA stating its position.
 - Donaldson stated that most clients want the Super-AWOS as its maintenance cost is generally lesser than the DigiWx. He estimated the annual cost for the AWOS to be around \$1,000.
 - Donaldson will initiate the FAA grant application process & engineering contracts. Hedditch stated that the project looks good, with \$2,700 as the Airport's participating share if the County gets a State Aviation grant.
 - Discussion ensued regarding location of the AWOS at the Airport. Switzer suggested placing it on the beacon tower.
 - Motion by Fox to proceed with the purchase & installation of a Super-AWOS at the Ravalli County Airport. Seconded by Irwin. Motion passed.
2. Donaldson stated that when the EA is completed, that competing for project funding may take some time.
3. Reported on Garlick Helicopters, Inc – that the business is under indictment for falsification on aircraft parts.
4. Regarding the former Leonardi property – the designated historic buildings may remain. Ms. Komar stated that only the pole shed needed to be removed.

Item 5: Airport Manager's Report (Page Gough):

1. Stated that the Airport's snowplow is to be delivered in January.
2. That a new lease with Ron Hale on the former Leonardi property has been enacted. \$5,500 plus water rights.
3. Gravel pit agreement with Ravalli County Road Department: Discussion ensued relative to what Co. Road Dept. has done at the Airport in the past, etc.
4. Lease renewal with the Hamilton Gun Club is progressing. New changes included.
5. Pogo Pumps lease proposal for fuel tank @ fuel farm: Discussion ensued.
 - Fox recommended to let Pogo Pumps proceed with installing a fuel tank @ the fuel farm location. To do this, a new lease for Pogo Pumps will be needed for the tank installation.
 - Irwin stated that since Pogo Pumps is not in compliance with the current lease, why go into another lease when the company is already in default.
 - There was discussion relative to the County Commissioners, Fournier, & Hedditch letters regarding Pogo Pumps FBO status.
 - Caldwell discussed Pogo Pumps plans for development of FBO facilities. Caldwell stated that the Airport Board needs to spell out in writing what is needed to be done to fulfill FBO requirements.

- Fuel farm lease is what is in question @ this time. There is a problem relative to the size of the fuel tank, 12,000 gallons. For placement of a fuel storage tank of this size, there is need of a new lease.
- Motion by Hasskamp to not issue any new lease until new Ravalli County Airport Minimum Standards are approved. Seconded by Irwin. Motion passed.

Item 6: Old Business:

1. Hedditch's proposed letter to County Commissioners (dated 3 Dec. 2006): This letter is being prepared to furnish information to the County Commissioners in order to provide them the necessary input for their letter to Mark Fournier of Pogo Pumps (draft letter attached). The Airport Board spent quite some time going over the letter paragraph by paragraph, discussing each point, and recommending some changes.
2. Review of updated Ravalli County Airport Minimum Standards: The up-date was given a thorough review, with minor changes made. Fox concerned that the section covering Small Specialized Services are too restrictive. Fox also concerned about the provision of restricting fuel sales to only branded fuels. Discussion ensued.

Item 7: New Business:

1. Election of Airport Board Officers: Motion by Fox that the current officers remain in office for next year, with the exception of Tex Irwin replacing retiring Board member, Theresa Eckberg, as Treasurer. Seconded by Irwin. Motion passed. (Note: Ravalli County Airport Board officers for 2007 are: Dave Hedditch – Chairman; Fred Hasskamp – Vice-Chairman; Tex Irwin – Treasurer; Jim Trowbridge – Secretary).
2. Kristine Komar made a presentation regarding the historic preservation of the old Leonardi homestead. She estimated \$35,000 to stabilize the barn; \$200,000 to completely restore the homestead. Some grant money is coming in for restoration. Discussed possibility of a non-profit to manage the facility. Possibility of offices spaces in former residence.
3. Future meeting dates will be scheduled on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Next Airport Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 03 January 2007 @ 2:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:00 P.M.

Submitted by Jim E. Trowbridge
Secretary, Ravalli County Airport Board